

In Congress, August 28, 1776

IN CONGRESS, AUGUST 28, 1776.

RESOLVED, THAT there be an Inspector or Inspectors sufficiently qualified to judge the goodness of gun-powder, who shall examine every cask of gun-powder manufactured, or to be purchased on account of the United States, by the most approved method of ascertaining the quality of gun-powder, the said Inspector or Inspectors to receive one eighth part of a dollar for every hundred weight of powder, he or they shall so examine.

That no gun-powder be received into the public magazine, for the use of the United States of America, or delivered of by the public Inspector, as to its quickness in firing, dryness, and other necessary qualities.

That the Inspector mark each cask approved, with the letters U.S.A. and such other marks as are necessary to distinguish the several sorts of gun-powder.

That every maker of gun-powder, mark every cask in which he shall pack his gun-powder with the first letters of his name.

That gun-powder be put into no cask, but such as are well seasoned and dry. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the several States of America, to cause suitable Inspectors to be appointed to examine and determine the quality of all gun-powder manufactured within their Jurisdiction, and that no person be allowed to vend any gun-powder manufactured in any of the States of America, unless the same, in the judgment of such Inspector, shall be of sufficient quality, and to make such laws for executing this, or any other regulations for promoting the manufacture of good gun-powder, as to them may seem most convenient.

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That the Continental Agents be impowered and required to Inspect or appoint some suitable person or persons to Inspect all gun-powder manufactured or purchased in, or imported into the respective States, wherein they reside, on account of the United States, except in those States where an Inspector is appointed by Congress. *By Order of Congress, JOHN HANCOCK, President.*